REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claim 1 to further clarify the invention. Entry and consideration are respectfully requested in view of the RCE accompanying this Amendment.

I.   Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

II.   Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,420,883 to Swensen et al. (hereinafter "Swensen") in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0147532 to Hakkarainen et al. (hereafter "Hakkarainen"). Applicant respectfully traverses these grounds of rejection at least in view of the following exemplary comments.

Of these rejected claims, only claim 1 is independent. Independent claim 1 *inter alia* recites: "said messages received in a same observation time window F_n containing t_n with a width of T_F are decoded using a decoding sequence DC_n adapted to decode said dynamic code C_n, regardless of an unsuccessful decoding of the previous message M_{n-1}."

In an exemplary, non-limiting embodiment of the present invention, a method for safely receiving and selecting in an observation time window the message that corresponds to the last one sent is provided. Specifically, the message received by the receiving platform are processed as a function of their reception date t_r based on a clock specific to this receiving platform so that the messages received successively in the same observation time window Fn containing t_n with a width ΔT_F are decoded using a decoding sequence DC_n adapted to decode the dynamic code C_n.

In an exemplary embodiment, a receiving platform processes (as a function of the reception date t_r based on a clock specific to receiving platform) received messages. The messages received in a same observation time window F_n, containing t_r, with a width of ΔT_F are decoded using a decoding sequence DC_n adapted to decode said dynamic code C_n regardless of an unsuccessful decoding of the previous message M_n. Accordingly, the messages are received and the message which has been the last one sent is selected in an observation time window. It will be appreciated that the foregoing remarks relate to the invention in a general sense, the remarks are not necessarily limitative of any claims and are intended only to help the Examiner better understand the distinguishing aspects of claim 1 mentioned above.

The Examiner acknowledges that Swensen does not disclose or suggest the above-quoted unique features of claim 1 (*see* pages 3-4 and 7 of the Office Action). That is, Swensen does not disclose or even remotely suggests messages received in a same observation time window being decoded using a decoding sequence DC_n adapted to decode said dynamic code C_n <u>regardless of an unsuccessful decoding of the previous message M</u>. Hakkarainen does not cure the above-identified deficiencies of Swensen.

Hakkarainen discloses microperiod messages where each microperiod message contains the deciphering key of the following or subsequent microperiod message to be received (¶ 18). Thus, the decoding of the message by using DC is only possible in Hakkarainen if the message sent previously has been correctly decoded including the deciphering key DC. In Hakkarainen, in case of an unsuccessful reception of the deciphering key DC, a bidirectional link is required (¶ 22).

Hakkarainen, however, does not disclose or suggest that the bidirectional link is not required *e.g.*, as described in an exemplary embodiment on page 13 line to page 14 line 9 of the specification. In Hakkarainen, the two messages M_{n-1} and M_n that are successfully received can be correctly decoded in the time window F_n. Hakkarainen does not disclose or suggest disallowing this type of decoding. That is, Hakkarainen does not disclose or suggest that when the previous messages M_{n-1} is expected to be received in F_{n-1} but is instead received in F_n, <u>it is discarded</u>. In other words, Hakkarainen does not disclose or suggest decoding the received message using the decoding sequence DC <u>regardless of an unsuccessful decoding of the previous message</u>. In short, Hakkarainen does not cure the above-identified deficiencies of Swensen.

For at least these exemplary reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Swensen in view of Hakkarainen. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-8.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

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